

# UNSCOP And Reactions

{ WWII – Partition Part III

⌘ In May 1947, at the request of the United Kingdom, the UN formed this committee to prepare a report on recommendations for Palestine to be presented at the next session of the General Assembly.

# Formation of The U.N. Special Committee on Palestine

- ⌘ It was recognized by all members that an effort must be made to find a solution which would avoid meeting fully the claims of one group at the expense of committing grave injustice against the other.
- ⌘ . But the Committee also realized that the crux of the Palestine problem is to be found in the fact that two sizeable groups, an Arab population of over 1,200,000 and a Jewish population of over 600,000, with intense nationalist aspirations, are diffused throughout a country that is arid, limited in area, and poor in all essential resources.

# Introduction of the Report

- ⌘ **Recommendation I. Termination of the Mandate**
- ⌘ **Recommendation II. Independence**
- ⌘ **Recommendation III. Transitional period**
- ⌘ **Recommendation IV. United Nations responsibility during the transitional period**
- ⌘ **Recommendation V. Holy Places and religious interests**
- ⌘ **Recommendation VI. Jewish displaced persons**
  - ⌘ The General Assembly undertake immediately the initiation and execution of an international arrangement whereby the problem of the distressed European Jews, of whom approximately 250,000 are in assembly centers, will be dealt with as a matter of extreme urgency for the alleviation of their plight and of the Palestine problem.

## Recommendations I-VI

## ⌘ Recommendation VII. Democratic principles and protection of minorities

- ⌘ ...the political structure of the new State or States shall be basically democratic, i.e., representative, in character, and that this shall be a prior condition to the grant of independence. ..
- ⌘ A. Human rights and fundamental freedoms, including freedom of worship and conscience, speech, press and assemblage, the rights of organized labor, freedom of movement, freedom from arbitrary searches and seizures, and rights of personal property; and
- ⌘ B. Full protection for the rights and interests of minorities, including the protection of the linguistic, religious and ethnic rights of the peoples and respect for their cultures, and full equality of all citizens with regard to political, civil and religious matters.

# Recommendation VII

⌘ **Recommendation VIII. Peaceful relations**

⌘ B. Accept the obligation to refrain in its international relations from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, or in any manner inconsistent with the purposes of the United Nations.

⌘ **Recommendation IX. Economic unity**

⌘ **Recommendation X. Capitulations**

⌘ **Recommendation XI. Appeal against acts of violence**

⌘ ..., to exert every effort 'to bring to an early end the acts of violence which have for too long beset that country.

⌘ *Comment*

⌘ ...The recurrent acts of violence, until very recently confined almost exclusively to underground Jewish organizations, are not only detrimental to the well-being of the country, but will also so augment the tension in Palestine as to render increasingly difficult the execution of the solution to be agreed upon by the United Nations.

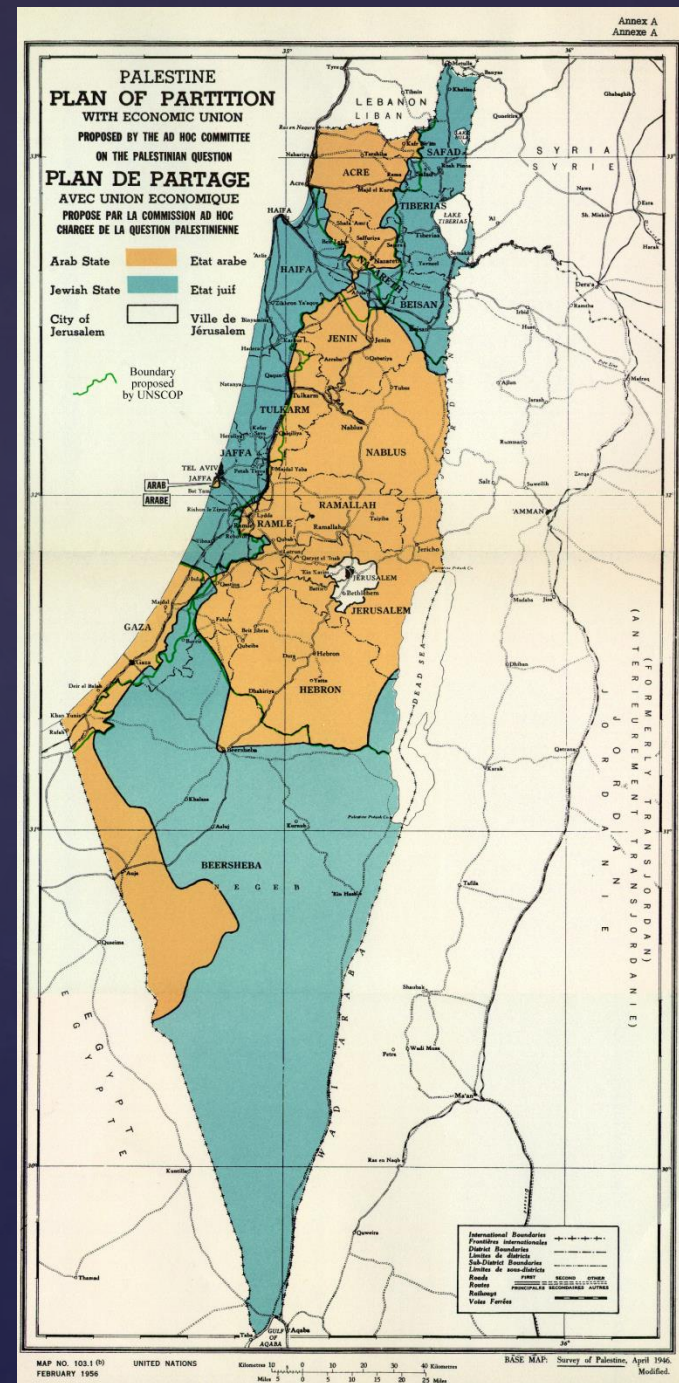
⌘ **Recommendation XII. The Jewish problem in general**

# Recommendations VIII-XII

# Partition Recommendation

3. The basic conflict in Palestine is a clash of two intense nationalisms. Regardless of the historical origins of the conflict, the rights and wrongs of the promises and counter-promises, and the international intervention incident to the Mandate, there are now in Palestine some 650,000 Jews and some 1,200,000 Arabs who are dissimilar in their ways of living and, for the time being, separated by political interests which render difficult full and effective political co-operation among them, whether voluntary or induced by constitutional arrangements.

4. Only by means of partition can these conflicting national aspirations find substantial expression and qualify both peoples to take their places as independent nations in the international community and in the United Nations.



Press Division  
Lake Success, Nassau County, New York

U.K. ACCEPTS UNSCOP GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS;  
Will Not Implement Policy  
Unacceptable by Both Arabs and Jews

The Committee this morning heard a statement from Mr. Arthur Creech-Jones, Representative of the United Kingdom, who declared that the United Kingdom Government agrees with the twelve general recommendations of the Report of the United Nations Special Committee on Palestine, but that if the Assembly should recommend a policy which is not acceptable to both Jews and Arabs, the United Kingdom Government would not feel able to implement it.

Mr. Creech-Jones added that in the absence of a settlement, the United Kingdom Government will plan for an early withdrawal of British forces and of the British Administration from Palestine.

The Committee then heard Mr. Emil Sandstrom, Chairman of the United Nations Special committee on Palestine, who explained the impossibility of finding a solution acceptable to all parties and the necessity of reaching a compromise on the Palestinian problem.

# Reactions/ British

- ⌘ Concerning the welfare of Jews in Arab countries, a number of direct threats were made:
- ⌘ Jamal Husseini promised, "The blood will flow like rivers in the Middle East".
- ⌘ Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Said, said: "We will smash the country with our guns and obliterate every place the Jews seek shelter in".
- ⌘ Concerning the welfare of Jews in Arab countries:
- ⌘ "On 24 November the head of the Egyptian delegation to the General Assembly, Muhammad Hussein Heykal Pasha, said that "the lives of 1,000,000 Jews in Moslem countries would be jeopardized by the establishment of a Jewish state."
- ⌘ At the 29th Meeting of the UN Ad Hoc Committee on Palestine on 24 November 1947, Dr Heykal Pasha, the Egyptian delegate, said, "if the U.N decide to amputate a part of Palestine in order to establish a Jewish state, no force on earth could prevent blood from flowing there...Moreover...no force on earth can confine it to the borders of Palestine itself...Jewish blood will necessarily be shed elsewhere in the Arab world... to place in certain and serious danger a million Jews."
- ⌘ Mahmud Bey Fawzi (Egypt) said: "...imposed partition was sure to result in bloodshed in Palestine and in the rest of the Arab world".
- ⌘ The Arab states warned the Western Powers that endorsement of the partition plan might be met by either or both an oil embargo and realignment of the Arab states with the Soviet Bloc.

## Reactions/Arabs

⌘ Zionists launched an intense White House lobby to have the UNSCOP plan endorsed, and the effects were not trivial.<sup>[59]</sup> The Democratic Party, a large part of whose contributions came from Jews,<sup>[60]</sup> informed Truman that failure to live up to promises to support the Jews in Palestine would constitute a danger to the party. T